

REMARKS

Claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 11-15, and 18-20 are pending in the application. Claims 6, 15 and 19 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 3 and 4, 7 and 8, and 16 and 17, respectively. Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 16, and 17 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview on April 1, 2004. During the interview, the claims and cited art were discussed, but no agreement was reached.

Claims 2-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bharucha, U.S. Patent 6,229,821, in view of Casper, U.S. Patent 5,963,608. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 19, for example, has been amended to recite the direct transmission frame generator generates position data with respect to a position of a first mini-cell for each corresponding individual transmission frame and inserts the position data into each corresponding individual transmission frame and the direct transmission frame generator arranges the position data at the beginning of a respective individual transmission frame. Similar limitations have been added to claims 6 and 15. The position data is generated directly from the data stream.

Bharucha merely discloses a known technique of using a framing bit pattern to sequence and synchronize frames. Accordingly, the features of claims 6, 15 and 19 are not taught or suggested by the cited art, either alone or in combination.

The remaining claims are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 14 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bharucha in view of Casper and Petersen, U.S. Patent No. 5,802,051. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

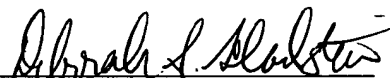
Claims 14 and 18 are allowable because Bharucha fails to teach that which the Examiner asserts, as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122032100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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